

## Lesson 9. A Good Truck Driver Story About Tandem Stoper.

When I first started calculating the optimal tandem position, my friend **Yevhen from Landstar** advised me to buy a metal tandem stoper.

That was a long time ago. Since then, I've tested **every type of tandem stoper across four generations**, and in total I've owned **more than ten of them**, because I was determined to find **the best option for you**.

For now, most drivers don't realize that this is something worth using **almost every day**. The real reason is simple: **you are not yet being paid several thousand dollars** for professional load control.

Drivers are still not motivated to reduce winter accident risks or cut fuel costs through **intentional axle load balancing**.

Right now, that money is simply **taken by scale and enforcement companies**.

But everything has its time — **progress cannot be stopped**.

The money will come, because without your professional load control, **carriers lose up to \$20,000 per year**.

So let's talk about tandem stopers.

When drivers start getting paid properly, **you'll be sliding tandems every day — the right way**.

And then the question becomes: **which tandem stop should you buy?**

Let's talk honestly about all the models.

What really matters is:

- how securely the stop holds in the hole;
- whether it pops out;
- whether it's safe;
- and whether it breaks.

### 1. First Generation

The oldest design is a **simple metal pin**.

Right now, it costs about **\$16 on Amazon**.

Unfortunately, it often **falls out**, because it has no retention mechanism.

The good news is that it **doesn't break** and is generally safe.

Still, it's very frustrating to re-slide tandems when the stop pops out and your settings are lost — especially when you no longer know the **optimal position**.

## 2. Second Generation — Sta-Rat

**Sta-Rat** represents the second generation of tandem stops. I owned **two of them** and had high hopes.

Sadly, **both broke**.

The worst part was watching a broken stop with a snapped steel wire **dangerously flying across a parking lot at speed**.

After that, I stopped using them and was happy to see the next generation arrive.

## 3. Third Generation — Magnastop

I'm grateful to **Travis from Tennessee**, who invented and built the third-generation stop — **Magnastop**.

I bought **about five of them**.

They were good. I used them myself and gave some to friends.

Unfortunately, this American invention was **quickly copied by manufacturers in China**, likely because it never received proper patent protection.

It's a good product, but it's **not immune to human error**.

One time, I accidentally installed a Magnastop the wrong way. It popped out and was slightly damaged.

Travis, I still respect you deeply.

Thank you on behalf of all the drivers who used your invention.

Today, Magnastop costs about **\$40 on Amazon**.

## 4. Fourth Generation — Dual-Magnet Stop

There is another excellent **fourth-generation tandem stop** with **two magnets**, priced at about **\$26**.

Almost no one promotes it, because drivers still don't realize they'll need a stop like this **every single day**.

It **almost never pops out**, holds extremely well regardless of orientation, and is **built to a higher quality standard**.

This stop is simply **underrated**, which is why I **personally recommend the dual-magnet design**.

## Why I'm Sharing This

Yevhen was seriously affected by COVID, and this good driver **can no longer work on the road.**

I'm grateful to him for the smart advice he once gave me, so I'm including an **affiliate link in Mouse Scale** for the fourth-generation stop **in his support.**

Get well soon, my friend.

**P.S.**

I have a few extra stops from the **first, second, and third generations** that I no longer need.

We'll **give them away** to drivers who share this post.

**Shipping is on me.**